

REMARKS

Applicant hereby responds to the Office Action dated 13 December 2005. Applicant would also like to thank the Examiner for having a telephone conference with the Applicant's Attorney on 9 March 2006 and the courtesies extended in the follow-up telephone conferences relating to the 9 March 2006 telephone conference, including the telephone conference of 12 May 2006. Applicant believes the claims are now in condition for allowance, and allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(b) as being anticipated by Saferstein et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,616,644. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Delmore et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,939,339. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9 and 22, as suggested by the Examiner, and dependent claim 2 for proper antecedent basis, to state that the securing system is in combination with a clothing strap and a second piece of fabric. Accordingly, allowance of the currently pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saferstein et al. in view of Clark et al. Claim 14 depends from claim 9. As stated above, the current amendment of claim 9 is believed to be in condition for allowance. The combination recited in claim 14 is now believed to be non-obvious in view of the present amendments, and allowance is respectfully requested.

Declaration

In view of the current amendments, the previously presented Declaration provides further evidence of the patentability of the present invention, as it shows the present invention (referred to as the "Tuck Tab") solving a problem (86% of the test women had a problem with strap slippage) by using the invention (98% of the test women stated the invention solved the problem of

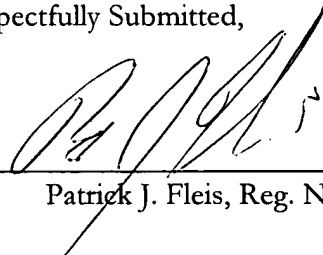
slippage). Applicant believes the Declaration reaffirms the patentability of the currently amended claims, and allowance of the claims is requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the claims as currently amended patentably distinguish the present invention, and, in further view of the submitted Declaration. No new matter has been added in this amendment. Applicant again wishes to thank the Examiner for the extended courtesies to the Applicant's Attorney, and allowance of the pending claims 1-4, inclusive, 6-12, inclusive, 14 and 22 is respectfully requested. If there are any further matters that need attendance, Applicant requests the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

By


Patrick J. Fleis, Reg. No. 55,185

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.

Post Office Box 26618

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

(262) 783 - 1300

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Customer No.: 26308

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